



California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Staff News

Communicating with Professionals in Corrections and Parole

www.cdcr.ca.gov

February 1, 2006

"I'm stuck in Folsom prison, and time keeps draggin' on.."



Actor Joaquin Phoenix, (l) who played Johnny Cash in "Walk the Line," is accompanied by Shooter Jennings, the son of the late Waylon Jennings, in an appearance at Folsom State Prison on Jan. 3.

Christmas Cheer from the Central California Women's Facility to Local Families

By Kevin Kostecky
AA/PIO CCWF

Central California Women's Facility (CCWF) was happy to answer the call of a local group dedicated to helping families in need this Christmas season.

"After the Chowchilla Ministerial Association made their needs known to us, I was pleased by the response of our employees, their families, the inmate population and the Joint Venture Enterprise at CCWF," said acting Warden Ron Kenan.

The employees' families played a

major role in the institution's response.

When 11-year-old twin sisters Jaime and Lauren went Christmas shopping with their parents and three-year-old sister Hannah, they weren't shopping for their family or anyone they were ever likely to meet. Lauren and Jaime opened their hearts to children who would have little to celebrate without

(Please see CCWF, Page 2)

Folsom Prison Braille Program Honors Clients/Inmates in December

By Robert Trujillo
AA/PIO Folsom State Prison

On Dec. 20, Folsom State Prison hosted a greeting for Amelia Diaz — who the Folsom Project for the Visually Impaired and Lyons Club have been sponsoring by converting her school books to Braille.

Diaz requested to meet the inmates who helped her over the years so she could thank them. Many dignitaries attended the event, including Assemblymember Roger Niello, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell, and Chief Deputy Secretary for Adult Operations Joe McGrath.

This event was also covered by **KXTV News 10** anchor Christina Mendonsa, The **Sacramento Bee** and **Folsom Telegraph**.

Folsom Project for the Visually Impaired (FPVI) has seven divisions: Braille, closed captioning, tactile, aural media (books on tape), computer assistive technologies, eyeglass service, and optical character recognition.

The primary objective is to provide the service to government agencies so they fully meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act 1990, §504). This helps federally funded agencies meet the needs of the disabled community in the State of Cali-

(Please see Folsom, Page 9)

CCWF..(From page one)

their help. Their father is the watch commander at CCWF and he is proud of his girls.

"We have been blessed and the girls know it," said Bart Fortner. "Our family has been part of the prison's toy program for years and the girls have been a big part of that."

Jaime chose some puzzles and games, while Lauren selected Moon shoes because, "Moon shoes rock!"

Jaime said, "We feel good that we are able to help someone feel good on Christmas," and Lauren agreed. "Jaime stole my idea," she said.



The Fortner family shopping for toys for less fortunate children.

Hannah was happy to get a present for a little girl even though "I don't know her name."

CCWF Records staff also met the challenge. Through the efforts of Marti Eichman, Case Records Man-

ager, four brand new bicycles are being donated to Chowchilla children. "We see so much that is bad, it really makes us happy to do something positive", said Ms. Eichman.

A donor who chooses to remain anonymous said, "It's all for the kids. The Department has been really good to me and

my family and this is a small way for me to repay that kindness."

More than \$900 and more than 240 gifts were collected by CCWF staff. These donations were used to feed families and brighten the lives of disadvantaged youths in Chowchilla.

2005 State Employees Charitable Campaign Totals Are In!

By Eileen Metzger, CSECC Chair
CDCR Headquarters

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation at headquarters which includes Paroles and Paroles, Region I just completed a very successful California State Employees Charitable Campaign for 2005.

Nearly 800 of your fellow employees have pledged some \$132,945 during the coming year.

This year's theme for the California State Employees Charitable Campaign was "Make an Impact." With all that was happening in our own country with the various natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and Rita, it was looking like we might negatively impact our local non-profits. However, the preliminary reports for our five county region (Amador, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, and Yolo counties) look like the campaign for the 2005 season will be similar to

last years' fundraising efforts. All contributions will make an impact!

The success of this campaign, of course, lies with the generosity of its donors and we want to thank the 781 employees who thoughtfully considered and gave through payroll deduction and/or cash donations.

Another thank you goes out to all the Division Coordinators, Key Campaigners and Auditors who volunteered to be part of the effort this year—some 108 of you. I realize that this is another job assignment for each of you and I am very thankful and grateful for your willingness to volunteer again or in some cases for the first time.

In appreciation of the employees who worked on this year's campaign, a thank you luncheon was held in December. Some 60 of the CSECC

volunteers showed up and were officially thanked by our CDCR Undersecretary Jeanne Woodford.

This was my fourth year as being the Department Chair for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Headquarters – with 22 years of serving in this campaign in various capacities.

Submissions

Staff News publicize staff activities, innovative programs, and transmits important information to the rank-and-file. To this end, we need stories and pictures to be submitted for publication. Please send your submissions to:

agencynews@cdcr.ca.gov

Stockton Parole Leads Successful Parole Sweep

By Susan Kane, Parole Agent III
Stockton Parole Office

During the late afternoon of Dec. 2, approximately 95 peace officers and support personnel from San Joaquin County gathered and briefed the law enforcement mission that was about to become one of the most successful multi-agency parole operations in the state. Their mission and objective: to protect the community by assuring parolees are in compliance with their conditions of parole. The major parolee compliance search operation was coordinated by the Stockton Parole Office in conjunction with the Stockton Police Department and resulted in 62 arrests, 13 of which had new charges filed in



Stockton Parole Agents, confer with sister law enforcement agencies on the parolee sweep effort.

combination with a parole violations. Also found and seized were 5.63 grams (g) of rock cocaine, 1.21g of heroin, 44.29g of marijuana, 5.33 g of methamphetamine, \$4,000 cash,

several knives and one loaded .38 caliber revolver.

CDCR parole agents and support staff, Stockton Police officers, San Joaquin County Sheriff deputies,

(Please see Stockton, Page 9)

Morro Bay Holiday Volunteers Visit Paso Robles YCF



Pictured are American Association of University Women, Morro Bay Chapter members during the annual Christmas gift donation at El Paso de Robles-Youth Correctional Facility. AAUW members have donated presents to a selected living unit for the past 19 years. Monica Ohlhausen (second from right) said, "We would like the wards to experience the meaning of Christmas by giving these gifts to their family and loved ones in order to learn the joy and true meaning of giving. The wards, in turn, write thank you letters about their experience this will teach them social skills. Many of these letters are very heartwarming and make the program so worthwhile".

Message from Secretary Hickman

I trust those of you reading this edition of **Staff News** feel the same sense of pride and admiration that I feel about CDCR staff as I look at these pictures and read these amazing stories.

The hope and selfless service exhibited by all CDCR staff this past holiday season to individual members of the communities where we live and work — is really overwhelming.

In the past we have all heard stories about these campaigns and individual staff efforts to make a difference in their communities. To see many (but certainly not all!) of those efforts captured in print and through these pictures is a testament to the humility, and public service to which CDCR staff regularly rise.

I salute you! And wish us all a prosperous and productive new year.

Roderick Q. Hickman

N.A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility Adopts Families for the Holidays

By Victor Zapien

AA/PIO N.A. Chaderjian YCF

N.A. Chaderjian's First Annual Adopt-A-Family Program was a huge success. During November the living units held a fundraising competition. They were very resourceful in raising money. One hall held a bake sale, another hall sold pizza during visiting, while the others sold food, hygiene products and photos. Another living unit even sold Christmas bears that are being mailed home. After all was said and done, N.A. Chaderjian raised \$1,400. Tuolumne Hall won the competition with their incredible \$310 contribution. For being the most industrious hall

Tuolumne won a pizza party and table games as prizes.

Overall, the response to the fund raising was spectacular. With the money earned N.A. Chaderjian contacted the Salvation Army and was assigned three families. The Salvation Army in the central valley area had more than 900 inquiries for aid this holiday season. Approximately 75 families were determined to be in the most need and then were adopted out to businesses, organizations and other families in the community. The remaining families who requested help through the holidays were given assistance but on a smaller scale.

The first family assigned to Chad was a single mother with two boys and two girls ranging from age 18 months to 13 years. The second family was composed of a mother, father and four girls ages four to 10-years-old. The third family was a single mother with four children, ranging from ages four to 13-years: two girls and two boys. The Salvation Army provides a list of names, ages and gift suggestions. The children asked for practical gifts such as shoes, clothing and a toy. Due to the incredible fundraising N.A. Chaderjian was able to provide each child with shoes, socks, jeans, t-shirt, sweatshirts/jack-

(Please see Adopt, Page 10)

Calipatria State Prison Activities Include Toys, Donations and Socks and Mittens



Calipatria State Prison staff and inmates worked together to fix and refurbish nearly 125 donated bikes to the Volunteers of America, which worked with the Marine Corps League to ensure that residents of West Moreland, Holtville and Imperial received the bikes.

Employees of Calipatria State Prison donated more than 250 new, unwrapped toys to the Salvation Army "Angel Tree" program.

Calipatria State Prison Records Department collected more than 500 pairs of socks and/or mittens that were donated to the children at Niland Elementary School for their annual "tootsie tree" program.

Chuckawalla Valley and Ironwood State Prisons Citizens Advisory Committee Donates Toys

By Dale Dorman
AA/PIO Ironwood State Prison

The Citizens' Advisory Committee of Chuckawalla Valley and Ironwood State Prisons spearheaded the "Gifts For Kids Program." For the past 12 years inmates at both institutions have used their vocational skills to build thousands of toys for children in the local community of Blythe.

Vocational instructors oversee inmates in landscaping, mill and cabinet, carpentry, welding, sewing, upholstery, roofing, plumbing, and auto body as they work throughout the year to build toys.

Bicycles donated to Chuckawalla Valley State Prison by local citizens and law enforcement, are refurbished

by inmates assigned to the vocational auto body and welding classes. For each bicycle given away through the Gifts For Kids Program, the City of Blythe and Blythe Police Department provide free registration, and a helmet. The money to refurbish the bicycles, purchase helmets, and build the vast variety of toys, comes from the Advisory Committee's fundraisers and inmates' fundraisers.

The Gifts for Kids toy distribution was held on Dec. 14, at the Colo-

(Please see Toys, Page 10)



Just a few of the many bikes that were donated.

Chuckawalla Prison Holds Breakfast with Santa

Santa was a big hit in Blythe! On Dec. 2 and 3, Chuckawalla Valley State Prison's (CVSP) Education Department sponsored the 6th annual "Breakfast with Santa" program at

Ruth Brown Elementary School in Blythe.

The annual Breakfast with Santa program started six years ago. The first program served 84 Children. The program, which now serves approximately 300 children, is provided at no cost to the participants.

Throughout the year CVSP's Education Department, not unlike Santa's elves, works diligently for this worthwhile program. Under the leadership of Ruth Davis, CVSP's Supervisor of Vocational Instruction, children attending the breakfast with Santa were treated to breakfast, gifts, and a visit with Santa.

This year, upon entering the auditorium, at each child's designated seat was a small-personalized chalkboard made by inmates in CVSP's Roofing Vocational class. After

(Please see Santa, Page 10)



The line forms early to visit Santa on this day.

Staff News

The Electronic Edition

The *Staff News* is published monthly by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Office of Press and Communications.

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CRC Norco Delivers to Some 200 Families in Need

By Michael Brownell
AA/PIO CRC Norco

The California Rehabilitation Center (CRC) in Norco, working in conjunction with the local United Way and Salvation Army, concluded a charitable campaign on Dec. 14th, resulting in some 200 children in need receiving gifts for Christmas. The event was named "Adopt a Child Christmas Gift Campaign."

The local United Way provided the names of 200 children in need the Riverside area and allowed CRC employees to adopt a specific child.

On Dec. 7, the kid's names, ages, gender and gift wish list cards were posted at the entrance gates of the institution. It did not take long for the cards to be grabbed up by many staff that were then given a week to go shopping and return the gifts with cards attached for distribution by the Salvation Army.



Norco staff from all three watches donated gifts for this event.

As CRC staff arrived for work on Dec. 14, they came bearing gifts with big smiles on their faces displaying a compassion for others to be proud. Before long the entrance gates resembled small toy stores with items such as bikes, board games, clothes, electronics and much more. An 11-year-old little girl's dreams came true when her wish for a "keyboard or piano" was granted -- thanks to Associate Warden Kent Romero.

At the Sallyport Gate, staff saw Correctional Officer Rickey Lilla pull up in his truck and start to unload several gifts. From a distance, they watched as he carefully decorated the bike with ribbons and other decorations. Officer Lilla's attention to detail was heartfelt and indicative of the joys of giving.

Warden (A)

Guillermina Hall stated that she was extremely proud of the employees of CRC for their participation.

"There are so many children in need. It is wonderful to see acts of compassion and the joy that the gift of giving brings," Warden Hall said. She also expressed a special thank you to CRC employees Michael Brownell, Lydia Calloway and Renelle Alfaro for their hard work coordinating this event.

Sacramento Metro Parole Plays Santa

By Tom Moore
Sacramento Metropolitan
Parole Office

On Dec. 16, Sacramento Metro Parole Agent II Nadine Mitchell coordinated Sacramento Metro Parole District's Second Annual Children's Christmas Holiday Party. The two-hour event was held at the Sacramento Metro Parole Office. The recipients were the children of parolees who their agents had identified as being in financial and/or emotional need.

Fifteen parolee families were referred by their agents of record with a total of 38 children. Eight parolee

families attended the event with 23 children. Their ages ranged from seven months to 14 years.

There was participation from all Metro staff including clerical, agents, Parole Outpatient Clinic (POC), Offender Employment Continuum, Employment Development Department, and management. Staff from the various district parole offices and CDCR institutions also volunteered their time to the event.

There was food, crafts, and entertainment. Beverly Swanson, Parole Agent I; Lee Maxi, POC clini-

cian; and Sharon Jackson, Regional Parole Administrator, performed and led the children in Christmas carols. George Madrigal, retired parole agent appeared as Santa Claus.

All 38 children received gifts. For the children who did not attend, their gifts were hand-delivered to their homes. Not only were toys given, but most of the children received coats, shoes, hats, and other items of clothing. When the gifts were revealed, some of the parolees became emotional and expressed gratitude.

Kern Valley Staff Rallies for Delano Elementary School

By Bobette Espinosa
AA/PIO Kern Valley State Prison

Kern Valley State Prison adopted Terrace School, an elementary school in Delano. The



Santa's arrival was met with tears by some children.

staff collected more than 518 gifts and delivered them, with a Santa, to the school on Dec 9.

The staff received a very warm welcome and the superintendent of schools presented a



Events like this are very important to KVSP staff. They look forward to next year!

ginger bread house that staff made as a thank you.

The children made decorations for our Christmas trees in the visiting rooms and made thank you cards that were placed throughout the institution.

In addition to the presents, the institution received \$200 and asked a local merchant if they would match the money in school supplies. In response, Central Valley Office Supplies presented a \$400 gift certificate for school supplies on Jan. 9.

Wasco Prison Staff Provides Merry Christmas to Kids

By Brian Parriott
AA/PIO Wasco State Prison

At Wasco State Prison – Reception Center toys filled a conference room, boxes of teddy bears pressed against a records cabinet, bags of

dolls and games were stacked high.

Staff worked together to help children at local and outlying schools and community centers by donating their time and gifts for children in and around the city of Wasco. The operation was entirely completed by volunteers, who put in many extra hours of work during the busy holiday season.



Despite the growing need, Wasco staff is committed to meeting demand each holiday season..

distributed more than 200 gifts. The institution has been able to do these things because of the overwhelming support of their staff.

Volunteers sorted through the donations, and bagged them together for Allensworth School, Wasco Orthopedic Exceptional School, and Wasco Headstart School.

On December 12, 14 and 15, Santa Claus oversaw staff volunteers who distributed gifts to each of the three schools. The impact this had on the lives of the children and their families was acknowledged by the testimonies of parents who relayed that Christmas was going to be very slim this year or in some cases not at all.

Holiday Music, Laughter, and Community at Heman G. Stark YCF

By: Esmeralda Ayón, CWS
Doris Quinley, PA I

The banks rumbled and young men hollered in elation as winners of the First Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Contest were announced through a loud speaker on the living unit. Excitement filled the air!

In the spirit of the holiday season, wards housed on the Specialized Counseling Program and Sex Offender Program at Heman G. Stark Youth Correctional Facility were asked to be part of Gingerbread House Decorating contest.

Each Youth Correctional Counselor was provided a starter kit, which included a plain cardboard house, various types of candy, marshmallows, and graham crackers. Imagination was to be determined by the decorators.

With a deadline of Dec.1 quickly

approaching, counselors and their caseloads vehemently worked towards adding finishing touches to what would evolve into elaborate pieces of art. With furrowed eyebrows and nimble fingers, wards worked together creating the masterpieces.

Some scenes included igloos, out-houses, and fireplaces while others maintained an elegant simplicity. In total, 15 gingerbread houses were submitted, each with unique characteristics yet all sharing a common, non-tangible theme: Teamwork and Community. YCC Grimes stated, "I thought it was fantastic...I saw the energy they had as a group. They were cohesive." Little did we know that this would become more of a contest among caseloads. For some of

these young men, it transformed into a reminiscence and yearning of holidays past and hope for the future. Luis, age 18, stated, "The Happy, Merry Christmas we never had...because if we had a Christmas like this we would not be here."

The gingerbread houses were donated to the Foothill Family Shelter in Upland where they were given to families served by the agency. They have become a beautiful art display and mostly importantly, a transfer of a dream for families recovering from the trauma of homelessness. The glitter has been swept up and decorations put away for another year, yet the spirit of camaraderie and community will live in the hearts of all who participated.

North Kern Prison Staff Adopt Local School for Christmas

By Barry Bolton, AA/PIO NKSP

This Christmas season North Kern State Prison employees participated in a first-of-its-kind charity event at the prison.

On Dec 9, 10 North Kern State Prison employees, including Warden Lea Ann Chrones, delivered more

The gifts were donated by nearly 200 NKSP employees and given to the children, grades kindergarten through sixth,



Pond Union staff and children were overwhelmed by the generosity.



The CCPOA chapter paid for a pizza lunch for the children.

than 300 Christmas gifts to the children of Pond Union School.

and the local chapter of the California Correctional Supervisors Organi-

zation donated a pizza lunch to the faculty and seventh and eighth grade students of the school.

The event was covered in the **Bakersfield Californian**.

Additionally, NKSP employees and the local chapter of the California Correctional Supervisors Organi-

zation donated a pizza lunch to the faculty and seventh and eighth grade students of the school.

Earlier in November, several Holiday dinners and other food goods were presented to the Head Start Program to assist needy families in the rural community near North Kern State Prison and Kern Valley State Prison.

STOCKTON...*(From page three)*

California Highway Patrol Officers, Tracy Police Officers, CDCR Solano State Prison K-9 officers, San Joaquin County District Attorney Investigators, FBI Task Force and CDCR transportation officers, merged to search 124 parolee residence locations as well as approximately eight other known gang and high narcotic “hang-outs” throughout south Stockton. According to Susan Kane, Parole Agent III, commander of the operation said, “We couldn’t have asked for better coordination and cooperation.

We were well organized and worked together as if we were one agency. It was awesome!”

The Stockton Parole Office and the Stockton Police Department have developed and maintained a positive partnership which advocates a proactive approach to the supervision and reintegration of parolees, thus leading to the ultimate goal of a safer community.

Lynn Ringuette, Parole Administrator for the Stockton Parole Office and an active participant of the op-

eration, said, “Having seen our agents and officers in action, I have nothing but praise for their professionalism, and the courtesy and respect shown the parolees and their families.” In just the last two years, Stockton Parole has coordinated 16 parole sweep operations in conjunction with the Stockton Police Department and the San Joaquin County Sheriff’s Office resulting in hundreds of arrests, and the confiscation of numerous weapons and narcotics.

FOLSOM...*(From page one)*

fornia.

In 1973, Congress passed the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It included a small section which forbade discrimination against persons with disabilities by federally funded programs and activities, federal agencies and the U.S. Post Office (§504) or by federal contractors (§503). ...

Some of the services provided by these inmates include:

- **Braille:** more than 30 percent of textbook Braille schoolbooks provided to K-8 unsighted school children are produced here. Approximately 2,000 children are served.
- **Aural media:** Both the U.S. Constitution and the California State Constitution were recorded in analogue and presented to the California legislative library.

- **Optical:** Eyeglasses are donated statewide to FPVI where we gauge, clean, and repair over 100,000 annually. Glasses are provided to the visually impaired, such as homeless veterans in California. Eyeglasses were shipped to New Orleans disaster victims this month.

- **Closed Captioning:** Off-line caption provided for 109 California Community Colleges statewide and other state agencies.

This year, FPVI produced more than \$250,000 in textbook Braille and closed captioning for state agencies in California. (Examples include the departments of Education and Rehabilitation, state Community Colleges and others.)

FPVI boast having the first music Braille certified inmate in the country. Nearly 20 percent of the nationwide music Braille community was trained here at Folsom State Prison.

Additionally, FPVI has zero percent recidivism rate. All inmates who paroled from the program are productive citizens within their respective communities.



Folsom State Prison Correctional Officer Robert Schmitz, describes to Ms. Diaz, gifts the inmates have given her.

SANTA..*(From page five)*

meals, provided by the Blythe McDonalds, each child had a special one-on-one time with Santa. After speaking with Santa, each child was escorted to various tables where they received; a candy cane decorated as a reindeer, a personalized tree ornament, coffee mug with goodies inside, stuffed animal, homemade Christmas cookie, bracelet, a personalized letter from Santa, and, last but not least, an age- and gender-appropriate gift.

"The children love this program, for some it is the only opportunity they have to see Santa, their smiles make the effort worthwhile, Davis said. "None of this could have been done without the involvement and hard work of so many employees, and their families who donated their time, as well as the many organizations who provided donations."

Blythe McDonalds provided all meals for the five sessions of the

Breakfast with Santa. Ace Hardware, Blythe Ambulance, and the Rotary Club of Blythe all provided cash donations for the event.

The staff at CVSP was amazed at the level of involvement in, and support of our Community. Successful events like "Breakfast with Santa" enables staff at CVSP to partner with the community for the good of the community.

TOYS..*(From page five)*

rado River Fairgrounds in Blythe. Gift Vouchers for families were given out by the Riverside County's Department of Public Social Services and Family Service Center.

This year, approximately 161 families and 451 children were recipient of toys distributed through the

"Gifts for Kids" program. 1,000 donated toys, 300 toys made by inmates assigned to the Landscaping and Paint Shop vocation classes, and 68 bicycles refurbished by inmate in the Auto Body vocational class were distributed.

"This is about the children; Christmas may not be possible for many of our community's less fortunate children without the generous support of staff, volunteers, and service organizations." Stated Warden (A) Madelene Muntz.

ADOPT..*(From page four)*

ets, and went beyond their one toy request. Our adopted families received the toy they requested, accessories for the toys and other toys appropriate to their ages such as Barbies, remote control trucks, table games, footballs, easy bake ovens and electronics.

Once the gifts were purchased, they were brought back to the institution and placed on tables in the visiting hall and organized by family. Wards Gilmer, Estrada, Magee, and Kim came to the visiting hall provided the elf labor required to get so many gifts wrapped. It took more than 3 hours. The experience for these wards was unforgettable one was quoted to say; "This is the best Christmas ever". A few of our elves did not know how to wrap presents but they are now professionals!!! They were able to give back to their community and help some very needy families at Christmas.

Finally it was time to deliver the

gifts. A project, which started in November, came to fruition in December. The gifts were taken to the Salvation Army offices on Dec. 15th waiting for Santa to pick them up and deliver them so children on Christmas day. This experience was an incredible endeavor for N.A. Chaderjian and

through it all we were able to supply a Christmas unlike any other to four adults and 12 children. A hearty thank you goes out to all those involved in this project!!! The spirit of Christmas giving is alive and well here at N.A. Chaderjian.

CDCR Medal of Valor Nominations Deadline Feb. 3!



**Please send all
nominations to:**

**Reminder!
Get your nominations in
by Friday, Feb. 3, 2006!**

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Sierra Conservation Center Activities



On Dec. 3, employees of Sierra Conservation Center joined forces with Gus's Steakhouse for the 8th annual Toy Drive Paintball Game. All participants were asked to bring a new unwrapped toy. These toys along with toys donated by other Sierra Conservation Center employees, 155 in all, were donated to the Tuolumne County Foster Children's program.

Deuel Vocational Institution Staff Rally to Brighten the Lives of 80 Children

*Head Start students at two area elementary schools were the recipients of the generosity of Deuel Vocational Institution staff for the 15th anniversary holiday event conducted in mid-December. More than 80 children received gifts and new clothing at the event. An area Domino's Pizza donated food and drinks for the event. The **Tracy Press** covered the event.*



The arrival of Santa Claus brought an enthusiastic laugh to more than one child at the event.



Head Start kids program dance to Christmas carols at the event.

Centinela, Calipatria Prisons Join Up for 4th Annual "Shop with a Cop"

By Dee Long

AA/PIO Centinela State Prison

On Dec. 3, the Fourth Annual Imperial Valley "Shop With A Cop" event was held directly following the El Centro Christmas Parade.



and excitement. The event began with a luncheon at Southwest High School. After the luncheon, the kids and cops jumped into emergency law enforcement vehicles with blaring sirens and flashing lights to cruise down



Imperial Avenue to the Target Store in El Centro.

The caravan was closely followed by a law enforcement helicopter who later delivered Santa Claus to the Target parking lot to lead the procession into the store. Each child was given a \$100 gift card to purchase Christmas gifts, either for themselves or others. This money was raised throughout the



year through law enforcement sporting events. Our employees were ma-



jor contributors to the program's financial success in 2005. The annual "Shop With A Cop" golf tournament is sponsored by Centinela and Calipatria employees and is the biggest fundraising event for the program. Chris Machado, Correctional Plant Supervisor, Centinela, has served as the golf tournament coordinator for the past three years. Centinela Correctional Sergeant K. Doyle serves as vice chairperson for the "Shop With A Cop" committee and attends regular planning meetings on her off-duty time.

See You Next Year!

This year, CDCR headquarters employees were treated for the first time to Christmas carols from the wards at Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp. A long standing tradition, the wards typically deliver Christmas trees and songs to the headquarters of the DJJ each year.

Look for the wards next year as they deck the halls of CDCR with song, good cheer and the spirit of restorative justice.



Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp wards meet with Undersecretary Woodford in December.